

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-2 and 4-12 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

interacting with a user terminal subscribed to a communication network, wherein said interacting yields an indication of at least (a) whether a credit is to be deposited on an account associated to said user terminal, (b) an amount of credit to be deposited, and (c) a source of the ~~deposit~~ credit; and

~~requesting~~ sending a request to said source ~~of the deposit~~ to deposit said amount of ~~credit~~ on said account ~~associated to said user terminal~~,

wherein said ~~requesting~~ sending a request is based on ~~the~~ a DIAMETER protocol,

wherein said ~~requesting~~ sending a request comprises generating a DIAMETER request message identifying the request as a request for depositing ~~an~~ the amount to ~~an~~ the account, and

wherein said generated DIAMETER request message further comprises ~~an~~ a first attribute value pair identifying the user terminal to ~~an~~ the ~~associated account of which the deposit is to be deposited.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said interacting is based on a ~~value-added~~ multimedia application run on a multimedia application server provided in said communication network.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein

said generated DIAMETER request message further comprises:

~~an~~ a second attribute value pair identifying said source ~~of the deposit~~; and

~~an~~ a third attribute value pair identifying the amount ~~of said deposit~~.

5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 4, wherein

the DIAMETER request message is routed to said source based on said second attribute value pair identifying said source ~~of the deposit~~.

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising

acknowledging, by said source, ~~whether said request was successful or not~~.

7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 6, further comprising

depositing said amount to said account ~~associated to said user terminal upon~~ receiving an acknowledgment ~~indicating success~~.

8. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 7, further comprising informing

said user terminal of the amount ~~being deposited to an~~ said account ~~associated to said~~ user terminal.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~A network element~~ An apparatus, comprising:

an interaction unit configured to interact with a user terminal subscribed to a communication network, wherein said interaction unit is further configured to yield an indication of at least (a) whether a credit is to be deposited on an account associated to said user terminal, (b) an amount of credit to be deposited, and (c) a source of the ~~deposit~~ credit; ~~and~~

a requesting unit configured to ~~request~~ send a request to said source ~~of the deposit~~ to deposit said amount ~~of credit on said account associated to said user terminal~~,

wherein said request is based on the DIAMETER protocol,

wherein said requesting unit is further configured to generate a DIAMETER request message identifying the request as a request for depositing ~~an~~ the amount to ~~an~~ the account, and

wherein said generated DIAMETER request message further comprises an attribute value pair identifying the user terminal to ~~an associated~~ the account ~~of which the deposit is to be deposited~~; and

a receiver configured to receive an acknowledgement of said request; and

a depositing unit configured to deposit the amount to the account.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~An account server~~ An apparatus, comprising:

~~a receiving unit~~ receiver configured to receive a request message from a network ~~entity~~ element to deposit an amount of credit ~~on~~ to an account associated to a user terminal subscribed to a communication network,

wherein said request message is based on ~~the~~ a DIAMETER protocol,

wherein said DIAMETER request message identifies the request as a request for depositing ~~an~~ the amount to ~~an~~ the account, and

wherein said received DIAMETER request message further comprises an attribute value pair identifying the user terminal to ~~an associated~~ the account of which the deposit is ~~to be deposited~~; and

~~a depositing unit configured to deposit the amount of credit on the account associated to said user terminal~~ an acknowledging unit configured to return an acknowledgment to the network element, wherein the acknowledgement is based on the DIAMETER protocol.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~A network element~~ An apparatus comprising:

interaction means for interacting with a user terminal subscribed to a communication network, wherein said interacting yields an indication of at least (a) whether a credit is to be deposited on an account associated to said user terminal, (b) an amount of credit to be deposited, and (c) a source of the deposit credit; and

requesting means for ~~requesting~~ sending a request to said source ~~of the deposit to deposit said amount of credit on said account associated to said user terminal,~~

wherein said request is based on ~~the~~ a DIAMETER protocol,

wherein said ~~requesting~~ sending a request comprises generating a DIAMETER request message identifying the request as a request for depositing an amount to an account, and

wherein said generated DIAMETER request message further comprises an attribute value pair identifying the user terminal to ~~an associated~~ the account ~~of which the deposit is to be deposited;~~ and

receiving means for receiving an acknowledgement of said request; and

depositing means for depositing the amount to the account.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~An account server~~ An apparatus, comprising:

receiving means for receiving a request message from a network ~~entity~~ element to deposit an amount of credit ~~on~~ to an account associated to a user terminal subscribed to a communication network,

wherein said request message is based on ~~the~~ a DIAMETER protocol,

wherein said DIAMETER request message identifies the request as a request for depositing ~~an~~ the amount to ~~an~~ the account, and

wherein said received DIAMETER request message further comprises an attribute value pair identifying the user terminal to ~~an associated~~ the account ~~of which the deposit is to be deposited;~~ and

~~depositing means for depositing the amount of credit on the account associated to~~
~~said user terminal~~acknowledging means for returning an acknowledgment to the network
element, wherein the acknowledgement is based on the DIAMETER protocol.